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IN 237306

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~~FEDERAL GOVERNMENT~~

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COUNTRY: VENEZUELA/CUBA

DECLASSIFICATION AND/OR
RELEASE OF CIA INFORMATION
IN THIS DOCUMENT, EXCEPT BRACKETS

DOI : 31 MARCH 1977

SUBJECT: ~~CUBAN GOVERNMENT CHARGE OF A UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT~~ (JFK)

ATTEMPT TO DISRUPT CUBAN/VENEZUELAN RELATIONS

ACQ : VENEZUELA, CARACAS (1 APRIL 1977) FIELD NO. [] 7626

SOURCE : []

TO STATE: NO DISTRIBUTION EXCEPT TO MR. SAUNDERS

TO FBI : FOR MR. LEAVITT []

ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 9/8/94 BY SP8 MAJ/GCL

APR 15 1977

1. ON THE EVENING OF 31 MARCH 1977 THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT

EX-106

REC 61

109-12-21-7214

RECEIVED AN INFORMAL COMPLAINT FROM THE CUBAN EMBASSY IN CARACAS

THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT (USG) WAS ATTEMPTING TO DAMAGE
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CUBAN AND VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENTS. IN ITS

APR 12 1977

STATEMENT TO VENEZUELAN OFFICIALS THE CUBAN EMBASSY CHARGED THAT
THE USG HAD DELIBERATELY DIRECTED A FOREIGN NEWSMAN TO CONTACT

US EMBASSY OFFICIALS IN AN EFFORT TO EXTRACT INFORMATION AND/

1 copies made
4/19/78 JSG/jlg
Re: Avila
for review at FBIHQ by
HSCA re 3/14/78 request.
(See Bufile #62-117290)

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OR STATEMENTS FROM THEM WHICH COULD BE USED IN AN ARTICLE CONCERNING THE 6 OCTOBER 1976 BOMBING OF A CUBANA AIRLINER AND CUBAN EXILE ACTIVITIES IN GENERAL. THE TONE OF THE QUESTIONS ASKED AND MATERIAL COVERED BY THE NEWSMAN DURING HIS 30 MARCH INTERVIEW WITH ~~Venezuelan~~ CUBAN EMBASSY OFFICIALS ~~ROBERTO~~ MARQUEZ AND ~~PEDRO~~ GOMEZ, INDICATED TO THE CUBANS THAT THE JOURNALIST INTENDS TO WRITE AN ARTICLE TYING THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT TO THE CUBAN EXILE MOVEMENT AND THE CUBANA BOMBING.

2. THE CUBAN EMBASSY ADMITTED THAT MARQUEZ AND GOMEZ HAD BEEN IN ERROR IN MEETING WITH THE NEWSMAN, BUT INSISTED THAT THEY HAD MADE NO COMMENTS WHICH COULD BE CONSTRUED AS BEING DETRIMENTAL TO THE VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT OR CRITICAL OF VENEZUELAN HANDLING OF THE CUBANA CASE. HOWEVER, THE CUBANS WARNED THAT IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE NEWSMAN MIGHT CLAIM THAT HE HAD DISCUSSED HIS INFORMATION WITH THE CUBAN EMBASSY IN CARACAS. THE EMBASSY, THEREFORE, WANTED IT CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT CUBAN OFFICIALS HAD NOT PROVIDED THE NEWSMAN WITH ANY COMMENTS OR MATERIAL WHICH MIGHT APPEAR IN THE NEWSMAN'S FUTURE ARTICLES.

3. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE CUBANS CHARGED THAT THE FOREIGN NEWSMAN HAD THE BENEFIT OF A WIDE-RANGE OF INFORMATION ON CUBAN

SECRET